

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

1        1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-  
2        executable components for controlling a hardware device of a given device type  
3        installed in a computer system, comprising:  
4        a first device driver for interacting with, through a device driver interface, an  
5        application running on the computer system; and  
6        a second device driver programmed to support entry point functions corresponding  
7        to a pre-selected set of operation commands generic to hardware devices of the  
8        given device type, the entry point functions callable by the first device driver for  
9        controlling operations of said hardware device,  
10       the first device driver programmed for receiving, through the device driver  
11       interface, a request from the application for a requested operation by the hardware  
12       device, and calling the entry point functions of the second device driver to control  
13       the hardware device to perform the requested operation.

1       2. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 1, where in the hardware  
2       device is an image-capturing device.

1       3. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 2, wherein the hardware  
2       device is a flatbed scanner.

1        4. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 3, wherein the requested  
2        operation is a scan operation.

1        5. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 4, wherein the entry point  
2        functions supported by the second server are callable to set parameters for the scan  
3        operation, and to initiate the scan operation.

1        6. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 1, wherein the first device  
2        driver is further programmed to pass to the second device driver a data structure for  
3        storing operation parameter settings by the second device driver.

1        7. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 1, wherein the computer-  
2        executable components further includes a third device driver for a second hardware  
3        device, the third device driver programmed to interact with the application through  
4        the device driver interface for receiving requests for operations by the second  
5        hardware device and to control the second hardware device to perform the requested  
6        operations.

1        8. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium having computer-readable  
2        instructions for controlling a hardware device of a given device type installed in a  
3        computer system to perform operations in response to requests by an application

4 running on the computer system, comprising:  
5 passing, through a device driver interface to a first device driver, a request from the  
6 application for a requested operation by the hardware device;  
7 calling, by the first device driver, a second device driver through entry point functions  
8 of the second device driver, the entry point functions corresponding to a pre-selected  
9 set of operation commands generic to hardware devices of said given device type, and  
10 controlling, by the second device driver in response to the calling of the entry point  
11 functions by the first driver, the hardware device to perform the requested operation,  
12 wherein the entry point functions perform actions including setting parameters of the  
13 requested operation and initializing the requested operation.

1 9. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 8, wherein the step of calling  
2 includes passing a data structure to the second device driver for storing operation  
3 parameter settings by the second device driver.

1 10. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 9, wherein the hardware  
2 device is an image-capturing device.

1 11. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 10, wherein the hardware  
2 device is a flatbed scanner.

1 12. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

2 a hardware device of a given type;  
3 an operating system having a device driver interface and a plurality of device drivers,  
4 including a first device driver and a second device driver cooperating to operate the  
5 hardware device, the second device driver being written for the hardware device and  
6 implementing entry point functions callable by the first device driver to control  
7 operations of the hardware device, the entry point functions corresponding to a pre-  
8 selected set of operation commands generic to hardware devices of said given device  
9 type,  
10 the first device driver programmed for receiving, through the device driver interface  
11 of the operating system, a request from an application running on the computer  
12 system to perform a requested operation by the hardware device, and calling the entry  
13 point functions of the second device driver to control the hardware device to perform  
14 the requested operation.

1 13. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 12, wherein the hardware  
2 device is an image-capturing device.

1 14. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 13, wherein the hardware  
2 device is a flatbed scanner, and the requested operation is a scan operation.

1 15. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 14, wherein the entry point  
2 functions performs actions including setting parameters for the scan operation, and

3       initiating the scan operation.

1       16. (Currently amended) A method of controlling a hardware device of a given  
2       device type installed in a computer system, comprising:  
3       interacting, by a first device driver, with an application running on the computer  
4       system through a device driver interface to receive from the application a request for  
5       performing a requested operation by the hardware device; and  
6       calling, by the first device driver, entry point functions of a second device driver to  
7       control the hardware device to perform the requested operation, the entry point  
8       functions corresponding to a pre-selected set of operation commands generic to  
9       hardware devices of the given device type and callable by the first device driver for  
10      controlling operations of said hardware device.

1       17. (Original) A method as in claim 16, where in the hardware device is an image-  
2       capturing device.

1       18. (Original) A method as in claim 17, wherein the image-capturing device is a  
2       flatbed scanner.

1       19. (Original) A method as in claim 18, wherein the requested operation is a scan  
2       operation.

1        20. (Original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the entry point functions supported  
2        by the second server are callable to set parameters for the scan operation, and to  
3        initiate the scan operation.

1        21. (Original) A method as in claim 16, further including the step of passing to the  
2        second device driver a data structure for storing operation parameter settings by the  
3        second device driver.